

The Hongkong Telegraph.

N°. 2553.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1890.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER

Banks.
THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK
CORPORATION, LIMITED.
AUTORISED CAPITAL £2,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000.
LONDON: Head Office, 40, Threadneedle Street.
West End Office, 23, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN
AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT,
Buys and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE,
Issues LETTERS OF CREDIT, forwards BILLS for
COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and
Agency Business generally, on terms to be had
on application.
INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS:
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum
6 " 4 " "
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS
2 per Cent. per Annum on the Daily Balance.
Geo. W. F. PLAYFAIR,
Manager.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL \$7,000,000.
RESERVE FUND 4,000,000.
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS 7,500,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
Chairman—T. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—J. S. MOSES, Esq.
T. E. DAVIES, Esq. S. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq. Hon. A. P. MCEWEN.
H. HOPPIUS, Esq. L. POENICKER, Esq.
Hon. J. J. KESWICK. D. R. SASSON, Esq.
A. McCUNACHE, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER,
HONGKONG—T. JACKSON, Esq.
MANAGER,
SHANGHAI—JOHN WALTER, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND
COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AT
the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the
daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
CREDITS granted on approved Securities,
and every description of BANKING and
EXCHANGE business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on London, and the chief
commercial places in Europe, India, Australia,
America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, 13th May, 1890.

**RULES
OF THE
HONGKONG SAVINGS
BANK.**

1.—THE BUSINESS of the above BANK
will be conducted by the HONGKONG
AND SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION, on their premises in
Hongkong. Business Hours on WEEK-
DAYS, 10 to 1; SATURDAYS, 10 to 1.
2.—SUMS LESS THAN \$1, OR MORE THAN
\$250 at one time will not be received. No
Depositor may deposit more than \$2,500
in any one year.

3.—DEPOSITORS in the SAVINGS BANK,
having \$100, or more, at their credit may
at their option transfer the same to the HONG-
KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 12
months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—INTEREST at the rate of 4 1/2 per
annum will be allowed to Depositors on
their daily balances.

5.—EACH DEPOSITOR will be supplied gratis
with a PASS-BOOK which must be presented
with each payment or withdrawal.
Depositors must not make any entries them-
selves in their PASS-BOOKS, but should send
them to be written up at least twice a year,
about the beginning of January and
beginning of July.

6.—CORRESPONDENCE to the Business
of the Bank, marked ON HONGKONG
SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS, will be
forwarded free by the various British Post
Offices in Hongkong and China.

7.—WITHDRAWALS may be made demand-
but the personal attendance of the
Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and
the production of his PASS-BOOK, are
necessary.

FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, 13th May, 1890.

GRIFFITH'S

NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO,
No. 2, Duddell Street.
(Between the New Bank, and
Mr. Lammer's Auction Rooms),
Entrance from Duddell Street or Ice House St.

M. R. GRIFFITH'S STUDIO is open daily
from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. for producing
First-class PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITURE in all
the Newest styles. Views of Hongkong and the
Coast Ports, with choice illustrations of Chinese
life and character, always ready.

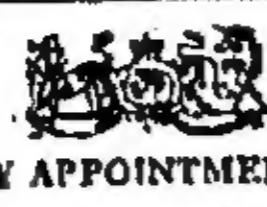
Portraits enlarged to life size and painted
in Oils or Water Colours by First-class
Artists. Miniatures on Ivory, and all kinds of
reproductions.

Hongkong, 2nd April 1890.

SIE N TING
SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 10, D'AGUILAR STREET.
TERMS VERY MODERATE,
Consultation free.

Hongkong, 7th March, 1890.

Intimations.



BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
(Established A.D. 1841.)

THE HONGKONG
DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
ANALYTICAL,
FAMILY, DISPENSING, and GENERAL
CHEMISTS,
PEPPERMERS,
PATENT MEDICINE PROPRIETORS,
SEEDSMEN,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
CIGAR IMPORTERS, &c., &c.,
Manufacturers of
AERATED WATERS
By Steam Machinery.

PHOTOGRAPHIC DRY PLATES.
Apparatus, Chemicals, and Materials of all
kinds suitable for Amateurs and Professionals,
at Moderate Prices.

We beg to state that we import Drugs,
Chemicals, and Goods of every kind of the best
description only—no other quality is kept in
stock.

Our long experience and intimate acquaintance
with the Trade, and the best sources of supply, enable us to purchase direct from the
producers on the very best terms, and thus
give us an advantage which enables us to offer
our constituents the benefit of a considerable
reduction in the price of all our Specialities as
compared with similar articles sold elsewhere.

But we wish to clearly understand that
our prices cannot be beaten by any other firm in
the Colony; and we trust it will soon become
generally known that, quality for quality, our
charges all round compare favourably with
local rates, and in most instances with those
ruling at home.

Experienced qualified English Assistants
only are employed in the preparation and dis-
pensing of Medicines.

GOODS FOR COAST PORTS
Whenever practicable, are despatched by first
steamer leaving after receipt of order. Most
articles can now be sent by the local Parcel
Post. All retail orders of the value of five dollars
and upwards are sent freight or postage paid.
Orders through Local Post or by Telegram
receive prompt attention.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

THE SHANGHAI PHARMACY, SHANGHAI,
24 Nankin Road.

BOTICA INGLESA, MANILA,
Escolina, 14.

THE CANTON DISPENSARY, CANTON,
Canal Road.

THE DISPENSARY, FOOCHOW.

THE DISPENSARY, HANKOW.

THE DISPENSARY, TIENSIN.

LONDON OFFICE,
166, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1890.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the
Military Authorities that ARTILLERY
PRACTICE will take place from South Shore
Battery, Stone Cutters' Island, from the 2nd to
16th June, between the hours of 6:30 A.M.
and 10 A.M. daily (Sundays excepted).

The line of fire will be in a South Westerly
direction from the Battery.

All Ships, Junks, and other Vessels are
cautioned to keep clear of the range.

By Command,

W. M. DEANE,
Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 29th May, 1890.

NOTICE.

BOARD and RESIDENCE for a Gentleman,
with a private family occupying a
detached, airy house on the Calne Road.

Apply in the first instance to "M."

c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office,
Hongkong, 30th May, 1890.

WANTED.

TWO full-sized ENGLISH BILLIARD
TABLES complete, with Balls, Cues, etc.,
etc.

One AMERICAN TABLE, complete.

Apply to

W. S. MARTEN,
2, Duddell Street.

Hongkong, 31st May, 1890.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.

ONE second-hand ENGLISH BILLIARD
TABLE and ONE FRENCH CAROM
TABLE, with Balls, Cues, etc., etc.

Send Particulars to

G. D. S.

c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office,
Hongkong, 1st May, 1890.

THE PUNJOM AND SUNGHIE DUA
SAMANTAN MINING COMPANY,
LIMITED.

THE Fourth Ordinary Half-yearly MEET-
ING of SHAR-HOLDERS in the above
Company will be held at the Company's Office,
No. 9, Queen's Road Central, on MONDAY, the
16th of June, 1890, at 4 P.M. for the purpose of
receiving the Report of the Directors, together
with a Statement of Accounts, to the 30th Sep-
tember, 1889.

The TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED
from the 3rd to 16th June, 1890, both days
inclusive.

A. O. D. GOURDIN,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 29th May, 1890.

INTIMATIONS.

Intimations.

HONGKONG
TRADING CO., LTD.
(LATE THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY, LIMITED.)

HAVE JUST RECEIVED ANOTHER LARGE STOCK OF

NEW HATS.

BOY'S, SAILOR HATS latest styles.

WOMAN'S SAILOR HATS do.

INFANT'S WASHING HATS.

LADIES' STRAW HATS and BONNETS made up in any style on the shortest notice.

PARIS MILLINERY IN GREAT VARIETY.

Also

A large assortment of LADIES' BATHING DRESSES, BATHING CAPS.

BATH GOWNS, etc., etc.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.
(LATE THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY, LIMITED.)

Hongkong, 31st May, 1890.

W. BREWER.

HAS JUST RECEIVED

AUSTON MUSICAL BOXES.
Phoenix " "
Symphony " "
Baby Organs.
New Pianos by Collard and Collard.
Violins, Banjos, Guitars.
Banjo Music and Strings.
Musical Photo Albums.
Albums for Cabinets only.
Postage Stamp Albums.

Fancy Photo Screens and Folding Albums.

New French Framed Pictures.

Large selection of New Beading for Framing

and Frames made any size at reasonable
rates.

Travelling Trunks.

Large selection of New Tennis Bats, Balls and

Tennis Racquet Bags.

Sweet Caporal Cigarettes.

W. BREWER,
UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 3rd June, 1890.

FOR CASH ONLY.
TROPICAL TWEE COATS & pants \$13.50
WATERPROOF COATS & INVERNESS CAPE \$5.
DRESS SUITS FROM \$20.
LINEN, DRILL AND DUCK SUITS.
FLANNEL, SERGE AND MERINO.
UMBRELLAS, SUMMER UNDERCLOTHING
in all materials, HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.

ROBERT LANG & CO.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1890.

REduced PRICES.

STOCK TAKING SALE.

(1)

WATERPROOF COATS & INVERNESS CAPE \$5.
Leggings and over SHOES.

English-made BOOTS and SHOES.

UMBRELLAS, SUMMER UNDERCLOTHING

in all materials, HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.

ROBERT LANG & CO.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1890.

REduced PRICES.

STOCK TAKING SALE.

(2)

WATERPROOF COATS & INVERNESS CAPE \$5.
Leggings and over SHOES.

English-made BOOTS and SHOES.

UMBRELLAS, SUMMER UNDERCLOTHING

in all materials, HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.

ROBERT LANG & CO.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1890.

REduced PRICES.

STOCK TAKING SALE.

(3)

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,
L I M I T E D ,
C H E M I S T S .

A ERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.
WINE & SPIRIT IMPORTERS.

CHAMPAGNE LEMOINE,
VIN BRUT, C U V E E ROYALE.

We are sole Agents in China for the sale of
this splendid wine.

It is supplied regularly to the households of
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, H.R.H. The Duke
of Edinburgh, to most of the leading Clubs in
London and the provinces, and is also largely
patronized at the military and naval stations at
home and abroad.

It is a Champagne of the highest character,
absolutely natural, without either artificial
sweetness or dryness, and we can confidently
recommend a trial to all judges of good wine.

Per Case 1 dozen qts. \$22; per bottle \$2.

" " 2 " " \$13; " " \$1.

(Telephone No. 60.)

No. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
Hongkong, 20th May, 1890. [52]



BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED
WATERS.

OUR AERATED WATER MANUFACTORY
is replete with the best Machinery, embodying
all the latest improvements in the trade.

The greatest attention has been paid to applicances for ensuring purity in the Water-supply, to secure which we have added a Condenser capable of supplying us with 3,000 gallons of distilled water a day, and are now in a position to compete in quality with the best English Makers. Our Sweet Waters cannot be surpassed anywhere.

The purest ingredients only are used, and the utmost care and cleanliness are exercised in the manufacture throughout.

LARGE BOMBAY
" SODAS "

We continue to supply large bottles as heretofore, free of Extra Charge, to those of our Customers who prefer to have them to the ordinary size.

COAST PORT ORDERS.

whenever practicable, are despatched by first steamer leaving after receipt of order.

FOR COAST PORTS. Waters are packed and placed on board ship in Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is,
" D I S P E N S A R Y , H O N G K O N G , "
And all signed messages addressed thus
will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always
kept ready in Stock:—

PURE AERATED WATERS
SODA WATER
LEMONADE
POTASH WATER

SELTZER WATER

LITHIA WATER
SARSAPARILLA WATER
TONIC WATER

GINGER ALE
GINGERADE.

No Credit given for bottles that look dirty, or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of Containing Aerated Water, as such bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,
Hongkong, China, and Manila. [5]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertising, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph," and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, as also as evidence of good faith.

Whilst the columns of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open to the discussion of all questions affecting public interest, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than "Three O'clock" so as to retard the early publication of the paper.

Advertisers and Subscribers which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continuosly charged.

The Hongkong Telegraph has the largest circulation of any English newspaper in the Far East, and is therefore the best medium for Advertisers. Terms can be learnt on application.

The Hongkong Telegraph's number at the Telephone Central Exchange is No. 1.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers to The Hongkong Telegraph are respectfully reminded that all Subscriptions are payable in advance.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1890.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANK IN MANILA.

A COUPLE of months ago a Señor REGIDOR, partner in the firm of JURADO & Co., favored the Press of the Far East and the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank with what purported to be a dispassionate and accurate account of the mysterious litigation in which the Manila branch of our great local Bank has been so long involved.

That account, if uncontradicted, was possibly calculated to seriously injure public confidence in the policy of the Bank, but that it has not, up to now, evoked the authoritative refutation it merited is due, so we are reliably informed, to the Bank's sense of respect for etiquette in matters still sub judice. We question, however, whether fifty people in this colony know how the Bank stands in Manila to-day, or how this

irritating legal tape-worm was originally evolved. So far as we can gather, it was in this way:—On the fall of the once powerful firm of RUSSELL, STROUD & Co., about 1875, the Bank started a branch in Manila.

The first agent was entrusted with a power of attorney, drawn up by Mr. T. C. HAYLLAR, Q.C., at that time the leading member of the Hongkong bar, and for many years a prominent figure in our local legal circles. It might have been expected that, emanating from such experienced and reliable hands, the document would have been flawless. But it was not. Even lawyers, Q.C.s, not excepted, are not always infallible. Still, until 1884 it was fairly accepted by the Spanish authorities as perfectly valid, and in the few unimportant matters in which the Bank was involved, in the law courts no question of legal status arose. In 1885, however, the powers of the document were seriously challenged. The Court of Directors sent over new and more comprehensive powers, and no immediate trouble ensued; but some eighteen months later, an action for very heavy damages was brought by a Spanish firm—JURADO & Co., of Manila and London. This firm, it is authoritatively stated, was anonymous—the sleeping partners, if any of them ever slept, were unknown, and although REGIDOR of Manila and REGIDOR of London were members of the concern, the nominal heads in Manila were a no doubt most excellent German and a very worthy Indian. These parties had for years been doing an extensive business with the Bank, and had obtained loans amounting to several hundreds of thousands of dollars on alleged *bond side* securities. The Manager of the Manila branch suddenly found out that these securities were practically worthless; and it is even reported, although we cannot vouch for the truth of this, that fraudulent signatures had been used on bills of lading deposited, and even the very deed of partnership in the firm was discovered to be bogus. He at once threw JURADO & Co. into bankruptcy, and criminally prosecuted the Indian manager; the other partner, the enterprising German gentleman, having taken a convenient voyage, doubtless for the benefit of his health. The unknown partners at once instituted counter proceedings against the Bank, charging that institution with all kinds of offences from forgery to petty larceny, and claiming the insignificant sum of \$500,000 as damages. The Bank Directors naturally resisted such a monstrous claim, and were in measure exculpated; but their great difficulty was to overcome the objection raised to their legal right to defend themselves in a Spanish Court. JURADO & Co.'s lawyer contended that the Manager's power of attorney did not empower him to represent the Bank in litigation—which we believe it actually did not, owing to Mr. HAYLLAR's extraordinary oversight—and so regarded legally, the Bank had no *locus standi*, and was in the unenviable position of not only having lost the hundreds of thousands of dollars lent to JURADO & Co., but also of being sued for about \$500,000 more, for alleged "loss of partners' profits, salary of staff," and all sorts of ridiculous things, without being allowed to even deny, much less disprove, these absurd allegations. And the delicate task of elucidating such an involved matter was entrusted in the first instance to an Indian, an acting Justice of the Peace! By his orders the Bank's premises in Manila were seized as security for the amount JURADO & Co. claimed, and it was only when the sum of \$328,000 in hard cash had been carted away from the Bank's treasury, locked up in a Spanish bank, and the receipt deposited with the Court, that the premises were released. The money, even to-day, is lying in the Spanish bank, and without a cent of interest accruing. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank protested, but the Indian judge was inexorable, refusing even to allow an appeal against his arbitrary and altogether unnecessary embargo. The Directors were recently able, however, to induce a higher Court to order the Sotolon of the Philippines to grant leave to appeal, and the hearing of the appeal will come on in a few days. The higher Court may order the return of the dollars to the Bank, and then—it would seem that the case *Jurado and Co. v. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank* will really begin.

Having given Señor REGIDOR the full benefit of our columns, we have considered it only fair to simply sketch, as briefly as possible, what we can learn unofficially respecting the actual position of the Bank's affairs in Manila; this deplorable business, reserving independent comment and criticism until a more favorable and fitting opportunity. And when that time comes, as soon as it must, we shall ask the Court of Directors to explain certain statements made and promises publicly given, all of which have been ruthlessly upset by the stern logic of facts.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE British steamship *Highfield* arrived at Nagasaki on Saturday the 24th ult., from Cardiff, with a cargo of 3,000 tons of coal for the British Naval coal depot.

Mr. J. C. Foster, late chief officer of the China Navigation Co.'s new steamer *Kweiyang*, has been appointed to the command of that vessel, *vica* Captain Barnes, who returns to England.

The *Tsai Shimbun*, which our readers will remember was last year concerned in an action for libel on certain members of the Tokyo City Assembly, has ceased publication.

MESSRS. BUTTERFIELD & SWINE inform us that the Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Prometheus*, from Liverpool, left Singapore for this port yesterday morning, and is due on the 9th inst.

MR. EPISON has sent one of his phonographs to be presented to the Emperor of Japan. This will probably be his Majesty's first practical acquaintance with one of the most remarkable inventions of the nineteenth century.

FOURTY-TWO sailors and marines of the U.S. *Monocacy* and *Swallow* went on the spree at Shanghai on May 26th, but nothing serious happened. A few "drunks" and incapables were haled before the United States Consul-General, and that was all the damage.

It is stated that the Islands are suffering from a plague of rats, which are destroying the cocoanut plantations. The islanders are treating the rats to a diet of rice, powdered with plaster-of-paris. When the rat drinks after eating, the plaster hardens and the rat becomes useless.

CAPT. "FRED" WALLACE, an old China coaster, and for some past the popular commander of the Canadian Pacific liner *Parthia*, has assumed command of the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Kweiyang*. The *Kweiyang* left Shanghai for Swallow on the 29th May, with a pontoons now, for the use of the C. N. Co.'s vessels at the latter port.

THE *Huogo* News bears on good authority that the only damage sustained by the *Ulysses* by the storm of the 17th and 18th ult. was the washing away of the deck-houses; otherwise the vessel remains in the same condition. On the 21st and 22nd part of the salved cargo was sold by auction at Fyogo, and realized about \$13,000, and much yet remains.

OUR Korean correspondent writes under date 27th ult.:—"Everything here seems to be quiet—perhaps too much so. It may be the calm before the storm. In view of the strong Russo-American under-current in Korean politics the present calm leads one to the belief that present prospects and latent possibilities do not favour hopes of long continued peace."

A COLLISION occurred about half past four o'clock on Monday afternoon, off Nam Sian, between the British steamship *Namyang*, 984 tons, and a Chinese junk, with the result that the junk was very badly damaged and three children were knocked overboard from her and drowned. The *Namyang* stopped and picked up the survivors, two men and one woman, and carried them on with her. The *Namyang* left here on the 1st instant for Saigon under charter in Chi-wei. She is commanded by W. J. Wooldrige. Presumably the captain will bring her, the survivors when he returns from Saig about a fortnight hence.

THE *Straits Independent*, published in Penang, had the following "explanation" in a recent issue:—"We regret that, notwithstanding our most strenuous endeavours, we have not been able to publish our paper on Wednesday last. All our efforts to secure the services of a few composers have met with failure. At first we were inclined to attribute this to an absence of unemployed hands; but we have since become aware of the existence of a conspiracy to hamper us in the publication of our paper, and we have had to place the matter in the hands of the Superintendent of Police. In the meantime we have taken sufficient measures to secure ourselves against the machinations of the dastardly clique, and we expect that we shall shortly be provided with a new staff of men and be enabled to publish our paper regularly."

THE loss of a torpedo in Japanese waters by the British man-of-war *Severn* will be recollected, and also that a reward of 100 yen was offered for its recovery. The torpedo, which was a Whitehead, was supposed to have been lost between Wada and Suma, and ever since then many fishermen have been on the lookout for it; each eager to obtain the 100 yen. At last, on the 4th ult., at about eight o'clock in the morning, it was accidentally found off Noda-mura, but it was of such a size that no less than 54 fishermen were required to haul in the net in which it was entangled. On landing it at Kobeteh police took charge of it and formally handed it over to the British Consul in the vicinity of the dredging operations are now going on. Every endeavour was made to recover it, with the aid of the Dockyard diving bell; but without success. The treasure recovered the other day was at once handed over to the police authorities, who will retain the custody of it until it is claimed.

WE take the following from *Whealock & Co.'s Shanghai Freight Market Report* of May 30th:—"Since our last circular was published on the 16th May, our freight market has not been so active, natives have secured nearly all the tonnage required and what little demand there is can be easily satisfied by the local liners.

Communication between the *Feeling* or the *Osaka* both of which were then plying between Nagasaki and Shanghai, under the British flag, in one case, said to contain some \$2,000, accidentally dropped overboard, in the vicinity of where the dredging operations are now going on. Every endeavour was made to recover it, with the aid of the Dockyard diving bell; but without success. The treasure recovered the other day was at once handed over to the police authorities, who will retain the custody of it until it is claimed.

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THERE will be a game of Polo at Causeway Bay, at 5.45 p.m. to-morrow.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. courteously informs us that the steamship *Clyde*, from Liverpool, left Singapore yesterday afternoon at 4 p.m. to-morrow.

THE *Nagasaki Rising Sun* says it is reported that the German steamer *Herz* has been chartered for three months on Korean account to run coastwise between Chemulpo and outports, for \$3,350 a month. A good charter, we should say.

WE learn from well-informed Chinese sources that the Viceroy of Canton has received telegraphic instructions from Peking to at once withdraw his proposed increase of the *Lai-kim* on foreign opium imported into the Liang Kwang provinces for this port.

AT about four o'clock this morning a steam-launch, in starting away at full speed from the Naval Yard pier, cut into the starboard bow of a Chinese passenger boat, doing about \$200 worth of damage to the latter. The name of the launch is, as yet, unknown.

THE steam-launch *Osprey*, built by Messrs. A. G. Gordon and Co. to the order of Mr. McGregor Smith for the British Government, left here for Sandakan on the instant to tow of the steamship *Memnon*. The *Osprey* has been specially constructed to suit the requirements of surveyors in the service of the British North Borneo Government.

OUR Peking correspondent informs us that His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Kwang-kuo, will visit the Western Tombs next Spring; on which occasion the procession will be on a much grander scale than usual. The frontier strategic railway is freely and favorably discussed in political circles, as also Russia's reported aggressive preparations on the Amoor.

THE inquiry into the circumstances connected with the fire which occurred at Messrs. Watson and Company's

Korea is too poor to be of any value to China and to feel the burden off her shoulders ought to be a great relief to China. She will strengthen her control over the country by binding it in friendly intercourse and control. England by supporting neutrality will also make a staunch friend of Korea, and Korea, who feels she cannot stand by herself and must lean on some great Power, will gladly repose herself in the arms of an English and Chinese guarantee. Failing this she will turn to Russia, Japan, and America, as heretofore, and openly defy England and China. Then will come the crash, for which Russia is preparing with such intent, activity, notwithstanding the avowed intention of China to put off constructing her frontier railways, and to go comfortably along with troops armed with all kinds of rifles and heavy ordnance—all same before!

My uncalled for, it is true, but sincere advice to the Chinese is to—

1st.—Avoid war with Russia by removing the bone of contention in Korea and giving the country conditional independence.

2nd.—Prepare vigorously for war, by arming the troops throughout the Empire with the latest magazine rifle, and drilling them on uniform system.

3rd.—Hurry up the frontier railways with all possible speed, and don't let Russia drag the country into war until you are ready.

4th.—Borrow all the money you may need for the enterprise; for it is not better to be ready on borrowed money than not to be ready at all, and be destroyed in consequence? Remember that those who lend to you will have an interest in the maintenance of the integrity of your Empire.

Disregard this warning and you will soon realize the painful truth of all I have written.

Korea is at present groaning under the vacillating policy of her great suzerain and neighbour. No business concern can flourish without a fixed power and strong administration, neither can any nation. Let China, then, act vigorously and promptly in assisting the Koreans to develop their own administration, abolishing foreign jobbing advisories to the King, and herself putting the country on a firm footing of neutrality with the co-operation of England. China and England will by this course take the wind completely out of the sails of all, the intrigues which are now going on at Soiul, and, *ipso facto*, become paramount in cases of importance in the country. China should have her own representative at the capital, just as England has in Afghanistan, but no others. Too many cooks spoil the broth, and at present there are far too many political cooks and cook's apprentices in Soul. Why do I hint at the doom of the Manchu dynasty? Because the Manchus are not Chinese, and if they suffer serious defeat, and the throne shows signs of tottering, the Chinese, knowing only too well to whom they owe their disasters, will rise to defend their own country proper, leaving the Manchus and Manchuria to fall into the hands of Russia, and propitiate her if need be. I have heard intelligent Chinese state these sentiments boldly, and during the previous Russian scares, 1880 and 1885, the same views were freely expressed, and formed the subject of a thrilling leader in the *Shanghai Courier* in the spring of 1880.

CHESNEY DUNCAN,
(Late of Royal Korean Customs Service.)

* * * Korea and the Powers* page 27, line 12.

MR. OSBERT CHADWICK ON THE HIGH-LEVEL SEWERAGE.

The following report of Mr. Chadwick on the sewerage of the high-level district of the city of Victoria, addressed to the Colonial Secretary, was laid on the table at the Legislative Council meeting on the 30th ulto.—

In continuation of the reports which I have already submitted to you, with regard to the recommendations made by the Commissioners appointed to enquire into the cause of the fever, &c.; I have now the honour to lay before you, my recommendations as to the sewerage of that district.

In my previous reports I merely expressed concurrence with the statement, that the sewerage of the district required improvement. Having made an examination of the district in question, and of that adjacent to it, eastward, between the same altitudes, I find that many similar conditions obtain in both. The topographical features are such that the joint area may be treated as one sewerage scheme, which will be absolutely separate and distinct, from the sewerage of any other portion of the City of Victoria. I propose therefore to discuss, not merely the sewerage of the Western district; but that of what may be called the High-level district. The boundaries of the High-level district are, approximately, as follows:—To the northward or below Caine Road, as far as Ladder Street, thence westward by Bonham Road to its junction with Pokfulum Road; and on, by Hill Road and Queen's Road to Belcher's Point. To the south or above the present boundary, is the Pokfulum Aqueduct. To the east, the boundary is Shelley Street, though few houses, east of this, may be connected to it. To the west, the boundary is at present undetermined, but may be taken as a line drawn in a southerly direction from Belcher's Point. The High-level district, therefore, comprises the greater portion of the area reserved for European dwellings. Its sewerage-system may be so arranged as to be wholly distinct from that of the City below. Indeed it will scarcely be an exaggeration to say that no Chinese tenement will pour its sewage into this system.

2. The sewerage-system (if it merits the name), which has hitherto obtained in this and other districts, has been to drain tenements to the nearest natural storm-water channel, or nullah. When the open channel has become offensive, owing to the sewage poured into it, the nuisance has been abated, or rather hidden, by covering it over. In this manner a number of large covered storm-water channels have come into existence, which follow the courses of natural water-courses, and which convey both rain-water and sewage to the harbour.

3. From the point where these combined channels cross Queen's Road, to their mouths at the Praya, they have but little fall, and they are filled up with sea water on the rise of each tide. Excepting, therefore, during heavy rain, the current through them is checked in the lower and flatter parts, and a deposit of earth, stones and sand, mingled with sewage, takes place giving off noxious emanations; which may, and often do, rise to the upper regions above.

4. In my original report on the sanitary condition of Hongkong, I proposed to remedy this by diverting the sewage-proper and dry-weather flow from the combined sewer and storm-water channel, at the point where it enters the flat region and conducting it by a separate pipe of small diameter to the sea. I further recommended certain improvements to the storm-water channels, in their steeper parts, so as to render them more suitable for the conveyance of sewage. These recommendations however, have not been carried out; nor, with the exception of a few lengths of pipe sewer, constructed since the arrival of Mr. Cooper, has any improvement been made in the construction of street-sewers. As far as sewerage is concerned, matters are now very much in the same condition as they were in 1882. I now propose to effect the inception of an earlier period. All recent experience shows that a channel suitable for the conveyance of a tropical rainfall, is not a suitable conduit

for sewers; it has not only here, but everywhere, been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

5. This decision has been arrived at principally by the consideration of recent experience, as to the ventilation of sewers. This question has received great attention of late years, and late additions have been made to the stock of knowledge on the subject. At the same time much misapprehension exists as to the causes which necessitate it, its objects and effects. Before proceeding to describe the proposed sewerage of the High-level district, I propose to discuss, as briefly as possible, the principles of sewer-ventilation; and to define what is intended to effect, what it can effect, and what it cannot do. These principles affect, not merely the High-level scheme; but every sewerage scheme whatsoever. To these general data, a brief discussion will be added of the general principles which have to be attended to in the construction of sewers.

6. It is usual to speak of "sewer gas," as though it were some specific gaseous substance, such as oxygen or hydrogen, or ordinary gas; and to assume that sewage evolves this objectionable substance in large quantities. Now, as a matter of fact, sewage, even when containing the full amount of faecal matter, and properly retained in a stagnant and putrefying condition, is found to evolve but little true gas. The gases which it does evolve are marsh-gas, carbonic acid and a little sulphurated hydrogen. These gases are produced by the decay of all vegetable matters, in the presence of water. They are not intrinsically poisonous or disease-producing. In a large un-ventilated sewer, containing deposit, an elongated cesspool in short, these gases may accumulate and make the air unfit to sustain life. A man entering such a sewer might lose his life, by suffocation. He would not be poisoned, any more than a man who is drowned on falling into the water, is poisoned by it.

7. No such accumulation and stagnation can take place in any properly constructed sewer, and the sewage, even if received, already putrefied, from defective house-drains, passes through sewers so quickly, that but little true gas can be evolved *in transitu*. Indeed the chemical composition of air taken from any ordinary sewer differs appreciably from that of the air outside. In most cases the most refined analytical methods would probably fail to establish any difference whatsoever.

8. What does take place is that the sewage, especially putrid sewage, imparts a most disagreeable smell to the air with which it comes in contact. In some cases also, it imparts to it most poisonous qualities. The quantity of odiferous matter, in sewage-tainted air, though painfully apparent to the nose, and even capable of producing immediate physiological effects, nausea, and so forth, is so minute as to elude the most delicate analytical methods. Just as a drop of altar-roses will scent a whole room, or to use a more suitable parallel the smell of cooking cabbage or onions will infect a whole house or neighbourhood. Yet the chemist would have, to say the least, great difficulty in detecting the odiferous principle of roses, cabbages or onions in the air of the room, house or district. The nose is more sensitive than the balance of the analyst.

9. Nevertheless the fact remains that a small amount of sewage will impart a bad smell to a large quantity of air. The smell is stronger and more offensive when the sewage is putrescent, than when it is fresh; when concentrated than when amply diluted. It is, moreover, far from certain that the odorous emanation from sewage is the thing that produces disease. Indeed it seems probable that it is not. The disease-producing agent is usually supposed to be a yeast-like germ, having its origin or habitat in the sewage; but so far its existence in the air of sewers has not yet been demonstrated. It is only inferred from the fact that such organisms are found in the bodies of persons suffering from diseases, attributed to sewer-tainted air or water. Air smelling of sewage has been in contact therewith, and may, and frequently does, contain these subtle disease-producing particles, whatever they may be, for undoubtedly it often produces disease. Certain it is that sewage-tainted air cannot be breathed for a continuance, without danger to health.

10. Before proceeding to discuss the remedy for sewer smells, some facts may be mentioned as to the motion of air in sewers. It is popularly supposed that so called "sewer gas" has a tendency to ascend; probably, because it is assumed to be like some of the better known gasses, lighter than air. Loft ventilators are erected; and they are supposed to emit continuously, an invisible, but offensive and deadly cloud, like smoke from a chimney. But the air in sewers differs appreciably from the air outside them, and its movements obey, not the general physical laws of motion. Like everything else in the universe, it remains at rest, until it is acted upon by some unbalanced force, and when thus acted upon, it moves as sewage.

11. The manner of determining the minimum size, will be discussed later on, as well as the conditions under which rain-water may be admitted, and to what extent. The true remedy, however, for stenches from sewers, is to make the sewage, passing through the public sewers, as little offensive as possible. To this end, it should be discharged into the sewers, fresh, before putrefaction has commenced, and it should be freely diluted with water. In other words, the remedy for the principal inconvenience, experienced in connection with sewers, consists mainly in good house-drains, properly made and properly used; in an ample water-supply, not lavished or wasted, but well-applied. An abundant water-supply is, even now, possessed by many, and in a short time, will be within the reach of all the inhabitants of Victoria (provided always that its distribution is well administered). The Government may assist the house-holder in obtaining good house-drains. But the people themselves have the prevention of nuisances, mainly in their own hands. If they will take care of their house-drains, the sewage will look after themselves. Unless the public, generally, co-operates with the Government in sanitation, by looking after the interior arrangements of their dwellings, by insisting on the drains being well constructed and decently maintained all expenditure on sewers will be, if not useless, very much reduced in value, as regards the public health. If they do so, the maintenance of the sewers becomes a simple one, certain of success.

12. If the air in the tube is colder and denser than the air outside, then it will descend, and escape at the lower opening. If there were something in the tube, a lump of ice for example, that would cool the entering air, then a descending current would be the result. Owing to eddies, produced by buildings and the like, the wind may cause a greater pressure on one opening than on the other, and a movement, from the opening where the pressure is greatest, towards that where it is least. Lastly the passage of a current of water through the tube may induce, by friction, a current of air in the same direction as that of the water.

13. The causes which produce movements of air in sewers are, slight, and not easy to trace. But as a matter of fact, downward currents are as often, indeed more often, observed than upward. This was the result of a series of experiments made with self-registering apparatus by Mr. Santo Crimp, on the sewers of Wimbledon. These observations which extended considerably over a whole year, shewed conclusively the preponderance of the downward current. My own observations, here and elsewhere, though neither as exhaustive or conclusive as those of Mr. Crimp, tend to the same conclusion. One case, which happened in Malta, is instructive. A coil of ventilating shaft some 50 feet high and very conspicuous, was supposed to pour forth "sewer gas" continuously, so as to infect the neighbourhood. The Committee appointed to enquire into the Cholera Epidemic of 1887, determined to see whether this ventilator (among others) did continuously pour forth sewage-tainted air. A man-hole, near to its connection with the sewerage-system, was opened; and some bunging-matter was inserted into the lower part of the ventilating pipe. A strong downward current was observed, so much so, that the man-hole drove the man out of the sewer. More fuel was added till a roaring fire was established, and the man-hole cover was then put on. The

fire was maintained for two hours, but not until the expiration of that time did its heat disturb the condition of things in the sewers sufficiently to establish an upward draft, and cause smoke to appear at the summit of the ventilator. This experiment does not shew that there never was an upward current. It merely shews that there may be a strong and persistent downward current, and it demonstrates the difficulty, amounting almost to an impossibility, of producing an artificial current through a system of sewers in any direction. On this point, another experiment of Mr. Santo Crimp may be cited. He closed every known opening to the Wimbledon sewer, which exhausted the air from the sewer sufficiently rapidly to remove its whole contents every five minutes. Nevertheless, whilst the fan was at work, his apparatus, at the lower opening, continued to register a steady downward flow, just as it did before the fan commenced to work. The whole of the air removed by the fan, as well as that which flowed out below, must have entered by some un-trapped house-drain or other undiscovered opening. Indeed it may safely be asserted that the ventilation of a system of sewers, in the sense of producing a steady flow of air through it to some one point, has never been effected. Nor, indeed, does it seem likely to be effected. If a fan or furnace were erected, for withdrawing the air from a large system of sewers at one point, and producing an indraft at another, it would have to be so powerful as to create a vacuum, near to it, sufficient to un-trap house-drains. Even if it did not, any house-connection which might become un-trapped, owing to leakage, or from evaporation, would admit enough air to destroy the current in the more remote parts of the system.

14. In a well-constructed and well-managed system of sewers; and house-drains, no such heroic system of ventilation is required. Nor does it seem to be even desirable. If the sewer-tainted air will remain in the sewer, it is at least as harmless there as anywhere else. What has to be done, is to provide a sufficient number of openings, more properly called "vents" than "ventilators," which, if the air, contained in the sewer, tends to escape, will allow it to do so, in the open air, where it is relatively harmless, rather than by house-drains, into the interior of dwellings, where it is dangerous.

15. The above stated facts and principles lead to the following conclusions as to the best way of abating the nuisance, caused by escapes of sewer-tainted air from openings. It has been shewn that a small amount of sewage will taint a large volume of air. Clearly therefore, the less the quantity of air, exposed to the taking-action of sewage, the better; thus leading to the conclusion that the size of sewers should be reduced to the minimum size practicable.

16. Now a sewer, which has also to act as a storm-water channel, must have a section, many times larger than if had to convey sewage only; and it will contain a larger volume of air, tainted with sewage, than a sewer, properly constructed, for sewage only. When, from any cause, an escape takes place, the large combined sewer will give forth a larger volume of tainted air, and produce a greater and more extended nuisance than the smaller volume escaping from the small sewer. The stream of sewage in the large sewer, exposes a greater area capable of imparting contamination to the contained air. Its damp sides, above the normal level of dry-weather-flow, are coated with low forms of fungoid growth, moulds, and the like, which doubtless contribute to the contamination of the air; and to the establishment of putrefactive action. The large sewer, therefore, is a large store-room of sewer-tainted air. The motion of this air is produced by causes, uncertain and beyond our control; and it will, from time to time, pour forth in large quantities, whenever and wherever the forces acting on the contained air cause it to issue forth. It is clear, therefore, that the section of sewers should be reduced to the minimum, and they should not be so designed as to convey large amounts of rain-water as well as sewage.

17. The manner of determining the minimum size, will be discussed later on, as well as the conditions under which rain-water may be admitted, and to what extent. The true remedy, however, for stenches from sewers, is to make the sewage, passing through the public sewers, as little offensive as possible. To this end, it should be discharged into the sewers, fresh, before putrefaction has commenced, and it should be freely diluted with water. In other words, the remedy for the principal inconvenience, experienced in connection with sewers, consists mainly in good house-drains, properly made and properly used; in an ample water-supply, not lavished or wasted, but well-applied. An abundant water-supply is, even now, possessed by many, and in a short time, will be within the reach of all the inhabitants of Victoria (provided always that its distribution is well administered). The Government may assist the house-holder in obtaining good house-drains. But the people themselves have the prevention of nuisances, mainly in their own hands. If they will take care of their house-drains, the sewage will look after themselves. Unless the public, generally, co-operates with the Government in sanitation, by looking after the interior arrangements of their dwellings, by insisting on the drains being well constructed and decently maintained all expenditure on sewers will be, if not useless, very much reduced in value, as regards the public health. If they do so, the maintenance of the sewers becomes a simple one, certain of success.

18. The area, the sewerage of which is about to be discussed, is almost entirely inhabited by Europeans, and principally by the wealthier classes of that community. It is scarcely to be anticipated that such a population will neglect to take the simple precautions necessary for the proper management of their house-drains. Their habits are such as lead to an abundant consumption of water. Any reasonably well-constructed system of sewers is certain to be successful. If any failure does take place it will be the fault of the inhabitants of the district, and not of the Government, or of the designers of the system of sewers.

19. In determining the size of sewers, the following principles should be kept in view. The normal dry-weather-flow should fill the sewer to about one-third of its diameter. That is to say the sewage, proper, with any sub-soil water that may be admitted, should, during the hours of maximum flow, fill the sewer to one-third of its diameter. The gradient of the sewer should be such, that with this amount of water passing through it, the velocity shall, on no account, be less than 2 feet per second, preferably more. This velocity is the least that will prevent deposit, and will scarcely serve to remove it, when once formed. During some part of each day considerably greater than a second, should be decided on its merits. They should be as far from dwellings as practicable. The middle of the road should be avoided, and above all, they should be as inconspicuous as possible.

20. To prevent casual obstruction, it is found that certain minimum sizes of sewers should be used irrespective of the duty that they have to perform, say 9" for principal sewers, and 6" for branches. To provide for new buildings also, the sewers must be made somewhat larger than the size which would be in accordance with the flow of sewage from existing tenements. Nor, in the case of pipes, is it possible to adjust the sizes with any minute accuracy. The graduation of sizes in the market does not permit one to do so.

21. For these reasons, it will be advisable to

provide means of flushing the sewer, by discharging, suddenly, from time to time, a considerable volume of water, so as to cause a rapid current through it. This may be done, either by collecting the sewage from higher levels in a tank; or by water derived from some other source such as the water-works or perennial springs. In the present instance, numerous natural springs will afford an ample supply for flushing. It is preferable, whenever practicable, that the sewer should keep itself clear of deposit, without flushing. The suddenly discharged flush displaces an equal volume of air, which must escape somewhere, and so produce smell from the vents, which will be aggravated by the fact that deposit has taken place, temporarily, which is stirred up by the flush.

22. It will not be possible, wholly to exclude rain-water from house-drains and from sewers. To do so, absolutely, would complicate house-drainage. If backyards were provided with two sets of drains, there would be no means of preventing sewage from being poured down the storm-water channel. Again, the rain-water, which flows off court-yards, stable-yards, and the like, is, practically, as foul as sewage, particularly at the commencement of a shower. It will, however, be seen that the sewers, even when reduced to the minimum practicable size, in accordance with the principles laid down above, will yet have a margin of carrying-capacity, sufficient to provide for a slight rainfall. House-drains, on the other hand, may have to carry off a considerable amount of rain-water. The sewers need not be enlarged, on this account. The proposed system crosses and re-crosses natural water-courses, at frequent intervals. At these points, overflows should be constructed, by which the contents of the sewer can escape. Then the sewer will carry as much as it can; and in heavy storms, the excess will escape by the storm-overflow, to the nearest water-course, down which, by that time, a roaring torrent will be flowing.

23. No hard-and-fast rule can be laid down, as to the amount of rain-water which may be admitted to house-drains. It should, however, be excluded, as far as possible; and carried off, by surface channels, to the storm-water system. As a rule, the rain-water from courts and yards only, should be admitted: places on which foul matter may accumulate. The advantage of this arrangement, as regards the householder, is great, for it facilitates the maintenance of the house-drain. It obviates, and necessarily for house-drains, of the prodigious diameters, which are but too common in Hongkong, and which can only be kept clear of deposit by a lavish use of water. The common argument in favour of these huge drains is "make them big enough and they will not choke up"; thus assuming the existence of deposits as a necessary incident in the working of a drain. Now if a drain is well laid and provided with proper traps, any solid object that can pass through the trap, will be carried away by a reasonable flush. Of course an object large enough to obstruct a small pipe will not choke a large one, but will remain in it, and form a nucleus of deposit. What happens in drains of moderate size is that deposit goes on accumulating, perhaps for many years. The drain becomes a cess-pool. Ultimately, it either chokes up altogether, and the sewage escapes by leaky joints; or the deposit goes on accumulating, until the sectional-area is diminished to that proper for the flow, and passage is maintained by it, permanently, or till some causal obstruction takes place.

24. A case once came under my notice, where the architect most certainly provided a house-drain of ample size to prevent it from becoming choked. It was six feet high, and four feet wide. It did not choke for upwards of a century; and might have gone on for another hundred years, but for an outbreak of typhoid fever in the house, that it drained: and a consequent examination of the drains. It was found that this ample channel was full of black deposit, up to the crown of the arch. Along this however there was a narrow water-way, equivalent in section to a six-inch pipe, the size of pipe ultimately used to drain this large mansion (Spencer House).

25. Having thus described the principles, which should be observed in the design of a system of sewerage, not only for the High-level District but generally. I will now proceed to the examination of the plans, prepared by Mr. Cooper, for the sewerage of this district. I find that the design is in strict accordance with the principles laid down, in the previous paragraphs of this report, which were fixed before the examination of the plans was undertaken.

26. A main-sewer runs from along the northern or lower boundary of the Caine Road, Bonham Road, and conducts the sewage to an out-fall at Slaughter-House point. This position of the out-fall is the natural one, assuming that this district is to be kept separate, from those below it. It is the point to which the formation of the ground, conducts the effluent of the district.

27. Wherever the Praya sea-wall has its foundation in deep water, which is now the case for Kennedy Town to Peddar's Wharf, and will be, even more so, when the Praya Reclamation is complete, there is no important reason which gives the preference to any one point, as an out-fall, over any other, provided always that the sewage is conducted out to a point well below low water-mark; and into a strong run of tide. Salient points are preferable to re-entering angles, on this account. It will be well to limit the number of out-falls, simply to reduce the cost of construction; and to concentrate the flow through them, so as to produce a brisk current, thus preventing deposit, either in the out-fall pipes or at their mouths. Fresh sewage is very rapidly assimilated by fish and crustaceans, and it will be so diluted as to produce no nuisance, certainly nothing comparable to that frequently caused by the mass of craft which frequent the Praya. The proposed out-fall, therefore, is free from objection.

4. On the 15th August, 1889. Inquiry as to the loss of the British steamship *Altair*, Official No. 84,361 of Aberdeen, on a reef off Paracels, on the morning of the 14th July, 1889. The Master's (William Buyers) Certificate of Competency was returned to him.

5. On the 9th September, 1889. Inquiry respecting certain charges of misconduct brought against Alexander Cox, first mate of the British barque *Mauna Loa*, Official No. 72,620 of Matlaid, Nova Scotia, by Lewis Ellis, able seaman of the said ship. The First Mate's Certificate of Competency was suspended for two years.

6. On the 16th September, 1889. Inquiry respecting certain charges of misconduct brought against Clement Young, first mate of the British barque *Omega*, Official No. 63,881 of Shanghai, by Arthur Vere Brown, master of the said ship. The First Mate's Certificate of Competency was returned to him.

7. On the 12th November, 1889. Inquiry as to the loss of the British barque *Hattie E. Taylor*, Official No. 83,663 of Sydney, N.S.W. on the N.E. extreme of Chek Wan in the Samous Group, on the night of the 1st November, 1889. The Master's (Robert S. Malcolm) Certificate of Competency was returned to him.

8. On the 14th December, 1889. Inquiry as to the loss of the British ship *Nylghau*, Official No. 80,617 of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, on the Pratas Shoal, on the evening of the 25th November, 1889. The Master's (Watson Baker Butler) Certificate of Competency was returned to him.

SEAMEN.—18,932 seamen were shipped and 10,069 were discharged at the Shipping Office and on board ships during the year.

19,238 distressed seamen were received during the year. Of these, 44 were sent to United Kingdom, 21 were sent elsewhere, and 173 obtained employment. \$4,300.40 were expended by the Board of Trade in the relief of these men and \$23.13 by this colony.

MARINE SURVEYOR'S SUR-DEPARTMENT.

20. Return No. XXXIII. shews a continued increase in the work of this Department. 1,127 visits were made by the Government Marine Surveyor to vessels under survey.

LIGHT-HOUSEES.

21. The three Light-house Stations have been maintained as usual during the year. In May, an alteration was made in the nature of the Green Island light, the red shades were dispensed with, and a bright light is now exhibited all round except over the Kelley's Bank. A light vessel has also been kept up on Kelley's Bank to mark the spot where eight junks laden with stones have been sunk as an experiment with the object of finding out if the obstruction thus caused will result in a "sitting up" on the Bank. I do not anticipate much result from the experiment.

22. Some little difficulty has been experienced with the Chinese staff of the Light-house. After being trained to their work of watch-keeping in the lantern, they frequently find the duty too irksome and laborious and leave, with or without permission, as most convenient to themselves. A new man has then to be obtained and his training taken in hand, and with a temperature in the lantern of 83 deg., as it often is in the summer nights, the duty of training these men, which falls on the European light-keeper, is a very trying one, seeing that he has his own watch to keep besides. Notwithstanding this, the lights have been efficiently maintained. I propose, however, recommending that a better class of Chinese shall in future be obtained for the post of light-keepers; these to receive higher rates of wages than at present, and to give security for the proper performance of their duty, and entering into an agreement to serve for a certain length of time.

BOKHARA ROCKS.

23. During the past year, experiments have been made by the Royal Engineers, with the object of determining the practicability or otherwise of blasting a portion of the Bokhara Rocks, so as to obtain a minimum depth over the Rocks of 5 fathoms. These experiments have shewn that without special appliances the operation cannot be successfully carried out. The matter is, however, still receiving attention.

GOVERNMENT GUNPOWDER DEPOT.

24. During the year there has been stored in the Government Magazine at Stone Cutters' Island.

	No. of Cases, &c.	Approximate Weight, lbs.
Gunpowder, Privately owned	18,500	449,370
Government owned	632	63,200
Cartridges, Privately owned	496	100,240
Explosive Compounds	118	15,130
Privately owned	1,130	90,940
Government owned	9	750
Total	21,358	522,521

On the 31st December, 1889, there remained as under:—

	No. of Cases, &c.	Approximate Weight, lbs.
Gunpowder, Privately owned	4,650	58,810
Government owned	632	63,200
Cartridges, Privately owned	803	15,230
Explosive Compounds	216	17,000
Privately owned	107	16,830
Government owned	0	0
Total	6,618	252,830

25. The condition of the Magazine is not such as might be desired. For several years, white ants have been at work in the rafters of the roof, and although their depredations have from time to time been restored the pests themselves have not been got rid of. The eastern outer wall is cracked owing apparently to the subsidence of the foundation. The wharf also is in a state bordering on the "unsafe."

The subject also of excluding the public from the precincts of the Magazine is one which, I submit, should receive consideration. At present, this is the only portion of "Stone Cutters' Island" where the public can land without special "permit" and when it is considered with what care such like premises are generally guarded, the omission in this case seems to call for remark.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (OPIUM) OFFICE.

26. The return shows that during the year the amount of opium reported was as follows:—Imported..... 67,429 21-40th chests. Exported..... 61,803 27-40th. Through cargo reported but not landed..... 12,306 1/2 chests.

19,327 Permits were issued and a daily memo. of export was sent to the Kowloon Customs Office.

I have the honour to be,
Your most obedient servant,
R. MURRAY RUMSEY, Ret. Com., R.N.,
Harbour Master, &c.

The Honourable W. M. Deane, Acting Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.

PEKING
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)
21st May, 1890.

I had a visit to-day from the head Lama of the Dagoba Temple, called Pai-ts-ze, in the

west of Peking. He is a most learned man, and gave me ready answers to questions put to him regarding Peking in the Yuan and Ming dynasties. Regarding the size of the city in the Mongol dynasty he said it was 40 li on each side, or 40 round, of the present capital. We have the remains of the mud walls of the Mongol capital on the north and east, a few li outside the present walls. The west wall is a little outside the celebrated Taoist temple, Po-yun-kwan. The position of the said temple is indicated by a mound of earth, and the locality is called Hwei-chao-kuo.

To the south, the Mongol wall was, south of the present Yung-ting Gate, the southern gate of the southern city. When the third Ming Emperor determined to move his capital to the north, he consulted a celebrated geomancer Liu Po-wu, who said the Mongol city indicated wealth to the dynasty, but poverty to the people. *Kuo fu, min chuan*; and the Nan-hai-te or Southern Hunting Ground, *min fu, kuo chung*, wealth to the people but poverty to the dynasty, but the present site would mean equal happiness to both (*ting fu*), and hence the present city was built. The well-known Yellow Temple or Hwang-ze on the plain north of the city formed part of the Forbidden City of the Mongol dynasty. The present temple was the Palace. The walls, moat, and other buildings have been removed and the whole levelled. At that time Peking was called Ta-tu, "the great city" and the summer residence outside the wall, some 200 li from Kalgan, was called Shang-tu, "the upper city." The Emperors used to repair their chief year from the 4th to the 9th moon. Prospect Hill, immediately to the north of the present palace, with its beautiful five pavilions on the ridge of it, was formed in the Ming dynasty by the heaping up of coals against a siege, and inside the front gate, in the street called T'si-pai, all under the flag-stone is charcoal. The Hata gate, our most eastern gate in the south wall of the northern city, was so called from the residence in its neighbourhood, in the Ming dynasty, of a Mohammedan Prince called Ha-ta-ta-wang; hence the gate was so designated. A rather illiterate correspondent of mine was therefore not so far wrong when he once addressed a letter to me Ottoman St. We are frequently in the Peking Gazette of the Pei-hai and Nan-hai, or northern and southern sea-terms applied to portions of the lake north and south of the Marble Bridge. The Empress Dowager, it is known, now lives on the shores of the southern sea, and a little bit of railway skirts its edge, part of the way. The old Pei-tang Cathedral and the Tz-kwang-k'lo, where the Emperor Ministers were received by the Emperor Tung-chi in audience, are situated on the western edge of the lake, near the middle, but south of the dividing line—the beautiful bridge which spans the lake here—it's narrowest part. The lake in summer is filled with lotus. Since the Empress moved to its banks, all the fare across the bridge has been stopped and the lake is enclosed. The names of these seas have been given them by the ignorant eunuchs and women of the palace. The names occur in none of the four or five topographical histories of Peking. In the time of Kanghi and Chienlung, they were called by their old names. Even the *Peking Gazette* commits the error of using these incorrect expressions. In the Yuan dynasty the northern one was called the Ye Chih and the southern one Hsi Yuan. In the Han dynasty we read of the Ching-lu-p'an, and at the present day, behind the beautiful dagoba which stands on the hill on the east of the northern portion of the lake, is a brass man bearing up a basin to catch the dew. The well-known Temple of Hsu-kwo-pai, in the west of the city, where fairs are held on the 7th, 8th, 17th, 18th, 27th, and 28th of each month, was in the Yuen dynasty the palace of the To-to-cheng-hsien. The Pai-12-12 temple with the white pagoda, of which our lai is the chief, dates from the Liao dynasty which preceded the Mongol one. The Ch'eng-hwa-tao or small dagoba on the east edge of the lake dates from the Yuen dynasty.

The Italian Minister has arrived. The present quarters of the Royal Italian Legation are in the vicinity of the Russian Postmaster, whose houses are immediately in front of the residence of the late Marquis Tseng. The Minister has gone to Tientsin to escort his family to the capital. The French Minister and Madame Lemaire purpose leaving us very soon. This summer Col. Denby and Mr. Cheshire are starting for a tour of the ports. Mrs. Denby is expected at Shanghai shortly on her return from the United States. The British Admiral and party are at present guests of the British Legation. General Sir Allen Johnston is also here on a visit. Sir Robert Hart's delightful Wednesday afternoon tennis parties are in full swing. Lady Walsham's equally pleasant Monday afternoon tennis parties are largely patronised. The weather has now begun to be warm and the trees are taking on their foliage. The second musical concert of Prof. Terschak and Madame Schuller, which it was intended should take place, has been finally abandoned. About sixty of the residents attended the first, our foreign population is very limited. The first 20 days Spring races here passed off as usual. The second day was somewhat windy and dusty. None of the Foreign Office Ministers put in an appearance. The races were postponed for some days owing to the demise of the Marquis Tseng. For this reason, probably, the Ministers did not visit the course. The Emperor and Empress Dowager will pay a visit to Wanshushan on the 10th and will live at it for the following ten days, returning each evening to the Palace in the city. The Emperor also proceeded on the 12th to the Temple of Heaven and returned on the 20th. Prince Lohanow and family have left Peking for Japan. The Prince assumes the post of Russian Consul at Yokohama. Monsieur Courant has left us for Seoul, and Mr. Denby June has gone on a visit to Tientsin. Mr. Heidemann, who was to go to a visit to Peking, returned to Tientsin. Admiral Sir N. Salmon and his party paid a visit to the Great Wall. Lady Walsham had an evening "at home" to receive all Peking in honour of her guests. The family of the late Marquis Tseng are busy packing and forwarding to the south their goods. The family will start on the 20th of the 6th moon with the remains for Shanghai where they propose to pass the summer, after which they will settle at their ancestral home in Hunan. On the 12th and 13th of the 4th moon the friends of the late Marquis will repair to his residence for the final obsequies. The last meeting for the season of the Oriental Society was held at the German Legation on May 16th when Dr. Dudgeon read a paper entitled "A Chinese Anatomist," and Monsieur Chavannes read one entitled "Introduction à la traduction du chapitre de Se Ma Tsien sur les sacrifices Fong et Chan." The annual election of office bearers of the Society for the next year has taken place. H.E. the Belgian Minister was re-elected President, and Drs. Dudgeon and Bullock, Mr. Jordan, and Mr. Visscher were elected members of Council; Mr. Russell was elected Treasurer, and Mr. Denby, Junr. Secretary. The President in taking leave for the year, thanked the readers of papers, our hosts, and all who had come to hear the paper read. Dr. Martin made an effective speech in criticising Mr. Chavannes paper. The President referred in suitable terms to the temporary loss the society would suffer by the departure of Dr. Martin.

The weather on the 17th and 18th was unusually hot for the season. A dust storm of unusual severity sprang up on the latter day which was followed on the succeeding one by

thunder and rain. The wheat crop lacks rain badly. Another electric light has been ordered, this time for Wanshushan, also through Mr. Kierulff, one of our stockkeepers. We are sorry to report that a grave accident occurred to the Spanish *Charge d'Affaires* on his way up the river. He had gone to Tientsin to escort the Spanish Consul-General and his wife who are now here on a visit. Mr. Urbarri, it is said, fell between two boats and has ruptured some internal organ. We hope to hear soon of his speedy recovery. Madame Verhaeghe has been seriously indisposed for several months, and we do not yet hear of much improvement having been made. M. Goebel, the Belgian Consul-General at Shanghai, and Madame Goebel are at present on a visit and are guests of the Minister. Mr. and Mrs. Rhein are also here on a visit, and are put up at the Belgian Legation. We observed these guests present at the meeting of the Oriental Society, Lady Walsham has issued her invitations to all Peking for the Queen's Birthday, to be celebrated on Friday the 23rd. It is rumoured that the Italian Minister will spend the summer at Chefoo. The Prince of Carabia, the Secretary of Legation, has been appointed, we hear, *Charge d'Affaires* in Japan. —*N. C. Daily News.*

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